

TELEGRAM Department of State

94574 #18 SECRET 28/9

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AM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUMTBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMB/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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SECRET FINAL SECTION OF TWO SAIGON 10958

SECRET

RECORD MESSAGE

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ORGANIZATIONAL FOCUS HERE IN SAIGON TO GATHER DATA ON VC USE OF CAMBODIA, MONITOR THE PROBLEM, RECOMMEND ACTIONS, AND OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ANY ACTION UNDERTAKEN FROM VIET-NAM. THIS IS BEING UNDERTAKEN IN SAIGON. A BETTER ORGANIZATIONAL FOCUS IS ALSO REQUIRED IN WASHINGTON. IT IS A TASK THAT COULD PRESUMABLY BE ASSUMED BY ONE OF THE EXISTING TASK FORCES.

WHILE THE ABOVE ACTIONS ARE NOT EXHAUSTIVE NOR DO THEY PRECLUDE DEVELOPMENT OF A MORE COMPREHENSIVE AND ARTICULATED APPROACH, THEY CAN ACCELERATE AN AMELIORATION OF CAMBODIAN

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POLICIES AND DECREASE THE FREEDOM OF THE VC TO EXPLOIT CAMBODIA. WE RECOGNIZE THAT WE WILL MOST LIKELY NEVER BE ABLE TO DENY COMPLETELY VC INFILTRATION AND OTHER USES OF CAMBODIAN TERRITORY JUST AS WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO DO SO WITHIN SOUTH VIET-NAM. WHAT WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE IS THE CREATION OF A CLIMATE IN WHICH THE CAMBODIANS ACCEPT IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE FREE WORLD WHILE WE, AND EVENTUALLY THEY, TAKE LIMITED ACTION TO CURB THE VC. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS.

OF-3. LEDGE

SECRET

State Dept. review completed